

overall, national strategy and to the long-term research investments needed for this effort to succeed.

To further this important research, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1157, the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act. This bipartisan legislation was introduced again this Congress by Representatives LOWEY, MYRICK and CAPPS.

Madam Speaker, this bill would create a competitive, peer-reviewed research program at the National Institutes of Health to study the potential links between breast cancer and the environment. It is modeled after the successful peer-reviewed Breast Cancer Research Program at the Department of Defense. A key component of this bill is inclusion of consumer advocates in the peer review and programmatic review process.

Let's continue to fight the war on breast cancer, and invest in getting the answers to eradicating this disease, in honor of all our mothers. Pledge your support today, by joining me in co-sponsoring the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act, and in working towards enacting it this year.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL UOFL DAY

**HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2007*

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I have the distinct privilege of rising in recognition of National UoFL Day, which honors the University of Louisville for its outstanding academic achievements, tremendous growth in recent years, and exceptional contributions to the Louisville community.

In the last decade we in Louisville saw unprecedented strides for our premier University, as it grew into one of the foremost research institutions in the country.

At Louisville's Jewish Hospital, doctors on the UoFL faculty implanted the nation's first successful artificial heart and performed the first three hand transplants, while Louisville scientists Ben Jenson and Shin-je Ghim discovered the first cervical cancer vaccine, and three year-old Chase Ford became the first child to regain the ability to walk after a spinal cord injury using ground-breaking rehabilitative therapy, developed by UoFL researcher Susan Harkema.

Due to these and other accomplishments, the school has experienced the most growth in National Institute of Health funding of any institution, and the number of endowed chairs at the University has more than doubled.

UoFL's student body has seen their average A.C.T. scores increase by nearly four points and the graduation rate rise by over 10 percent.

The University's commitment to the betterment of our community manifests itself in every facet of Louisville life, from its alliance with Project Women to its work with Partnership for a Green City to the new Signature Partnership Initiative, which will provide resources to areas of the city that need them most.

The landmark Cardinal Covenant program, which made UoFL the first public higher learning institution in Kentucky to promise a debt-

free education to students from low-income families, reaffirms a commitment that I share with the University: providing a world-class education to all capable, hard-working students.

Though the recent achievements are astounding, President James Ramsey continues to set goals for the future that are loftier still. Under the leadership of Dr. Ramsey, the pursuit of excellence can be seen each day in the students, faculty, administration, and alumni and the competence with which they chart the school's course guarantees many more milestones in the coming years.

And so, for the great distance that has already been covered, and for displaying the vision and capability to excel in the future, I am proud to share the Cardinal spirit by recognizing National UoFL Day and thanking the University of Louisville for all it has done for our community.

#### ON THE IMPROVING HEAD START ACT OF 2007

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2007*

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the The Improving Head Start Act of 2007. For 40 years, Head Start has provided comprehensive child development, literacy, and family services to more than 20 million pre-schoolers from low-income and working poor families. It is unquestionably the most effective early childhood development program ever developed.

Head Start graduates are less likely to need special education services, to be left back a grade or to get into trouble with the law. They are more likely to go on to college and to have professional careers.

At a time when there is an overwhelming need in our country for quality, affordable early childhood education, we can all understand how powerful this legislation could be. I hope we can all understand our shared obligation today—not only to maintain this incredibly effective program, but to help it reach more children in need.

As time goes by, we continue to learn more and more about the development of young children—their language development, their social-emotional development, even their brain development—and it all points to the fact that quality education and early engagement, from both parents and teachers, are essential for our kids' success.

That is why this legislation is so important. It will increase funding for Head Start teacher and staff salaries and professional development, strengthening training and technical assistance. And it will re-evaluate and update Head Start's current standards and assessments based on the best science.

We are going to increase accountability by devising a new system of application review that assesses program quality and leads to re-competition of low-quality centers. We are going to boost cooperation between Head Start and state and local child care programs to increase full-day and full-year services. And we are going to allow programs to convert portions of their grant for use for Early Head Start, which serves children under three years old.

Ultimately, though, this legislation is about expanding access to Head Start for more than 10,000 additional children. Ten thousand more children who will be given the tools to perform significantly better on a range of cognitive, language, and social-emotional development measures. Ten thousand children for whom, studies show, there will be a higher degree of parental involvement in the home and at school. Ten thousand children with a real opportunity to thrive and succeed over the course of their entire lives.

I want to commend and thank Congressmen KILDEE, CASTLE, and Chairman MILLER for their leadership on this critical legislation.

Head Start is a strong and effective program. The growth and success of millions of American children and families is living proof. We have a responsibility to embrace their success, support it, and strengthen it for years to come.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2007*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably delayed in arriving to the chamber earlier today during the recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Mississippi, Mr. THOMPSON, to H.R. 1684, the Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008. Had I been able to record my vote on this amendment, rollcall No. 314, I would have voted "aye."

#### INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 2188, THE KINSHIP CAREGIVER SUPPORT ACT

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, in the words of novelist, P.D. James, "What a child doesn't receive he can seldom later give." Our children are entitled to stable, caring homes; if we deny them what they truly deserve, we can anticipate a colder, more uncertain future for our nation.

This week marks the tenth anniversary of subsidized guardianship in Illinois, an innovative program that allows foster children to exit the child welfare system into permanent families while using federal funds to provide caregivers with the level of resources provided to adoptive families of children in foster care. To recognize this milestone, my colleague TIM JOHNSON and I introduced H.R. 2188, the Kinship Caregiver Support Act.

Modeled after the adoption assistance program, innovative programs in Illinois, and recommendations from the Pew Commission on Children in Foster Care, this bill provides kinship caregivers with the necessary resources to address their children's needs. The bill addresses gaps in existing foster care laws that withhold important supports from children living with relative guardians.

By enacting the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 and the Adoption Assistance and